

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for holding a piece in a bore, comprising:

a cylindrical sleeve having substantially identical opposite ends and constructed to be inserted longitudinal by into the bore with either end leading and to be held therein by engagement of its outer surface with an inner surface of the bore; and

an annular bead extending circumferentially and inwardly from a location on the inner surface of the sleeve centrally between the opposite ends,

wherein the sleeve and the bead are integrally formed of resilient flexible plastic.

2. (Original) A device according to Claim 1, wherein the bead has a circular or oval cross-section.

3. (Original) A device according to Claim 1, wherein the bead has a rectangular cross-section.

4. (Currently Amended) A device according to Claim 1, wherein the bead is connected to the inner surface of the sleeve by a ~~thin~~ web thinner than the bead longitudinally of the sleeve.

5. (Original) A device according to Claim 1, wherein the bead has at least one slot interrupting its circumference.

6. (Original) A device according to Claim 1, wherein the ends of the sleeve are chamfered.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of holding a piece in a bore of a body comprising:

providing a piece-holding device having a cylindrical sleeve with substantially identical opposite ends and constructed to be inserted longitudinally into the bore with either end leading, and to be held therein by engagement of its outer surface with an inner surface of the bore, and having an annular bead extending circumferentially and inwardly from a location on an inner surface of the sleeve centrally between the opposite ends to engage an outer surface of a piece inserted into the

sleeve, the sleeve and the bead being integrally formed of resilient flexible plastic;

inserting a piece in the sleeve of the piece-holding device so that the outer surface of the piece engages the bead; and

inserting the piece-holding device in the bore so that the outer surface of the piece-holding device engages the inner surface of the bore.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein the piece is inserted in the piece-holding device and then the device and the piece are inserted in the bore.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein the piece-holding device is inserted in the bore and then the piece is inserted in the device.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein the bead is provided with at least one slot interrupting its circumference.

11. (Currently Amended) An assembly including a piece to be held in a bore and a device in which the piece is inserted

for holding a the piece in the bore, wherein the device comprises:

a cylindrical sleeve having substantially identical opposite ends and constructed to be inserted longitudinally in the bore with either end leading, and to be held therein by engagement of its outer surface with an inner surface of the bore;

and an annular bead extending circumferentially and inwardly from a location on the inner surface of the sleeve centrally between the opposite ends,

wherein the sleeve and the bead are integrally formed of resilient flexible plastic.

12. (Original) An assembly according to Claim 11, wherein the piece is a bolt.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) An assembly according to Claim 11, wherein the ends of the sleeve are chamfered.

15. (Currently Amended) In combination, a body having a bore therein, a piece-holding device inserted in the bore,

and a piece inserted and held by the piece-holding device,  
wherein the piece-holding device comprises:-

a cylindrical sleeve having substantially identical opposite ends and constructed to be inserted longitudinally into the bore with either end leading, and to be held therein by engagement of its outer surface with an inner surface of the bore;

and an annular bead extending circumferentially and inwardly from a location on an inner surface of the sleeve centrally between the opposite ends,

wherein the sleeve and the bead are integrally formed of resilient flexible plastic.

16. (Original) A combination according to Claim 15,  
wherein the bead has a circular or oval cross-section.

17. (Original) A combination according to Claim 15,  
wherein the bead has a rectangular cross-section.

18. (Currently Amended) A combination according to Claim 15, wherein the bead is connected to the inner surface of the sleeve by a thin web thinner than the bead longitudinally of the sleeve.

19. (Original) A combination according to Claim 15, wherein the bead has at least one slot interrupting its circumference.

20. (Original) A combination according to Claim 15, wherein the ends of the sleeve are chamfered.

21. (New) A method according to claim 7, wherein the bead is connected to the inner surface of the sleeve by a web thinner than the bead longitudinally of the sleeve.

22. (New) An assembly according to claim 11, wherein the bead is connected to the inner surface of the sleeve by a web thinner than the bead longitudinally of the sleeve.

23. (New) A device according to claim 1, wherein the bead is hinged to the inner surface of the sleeve.

24. (New) A method according to claim 7, wherein the bead is hinged to the inner surface of the sleeve.

25. (New) An assembly according to claim 11, wherein the bead is hinged to the inner surface of the sleeve.

26. (New) A combination according to claim 15, wherein the bead is hinged to the inner surface of the sleeve.